AKIRA 25™

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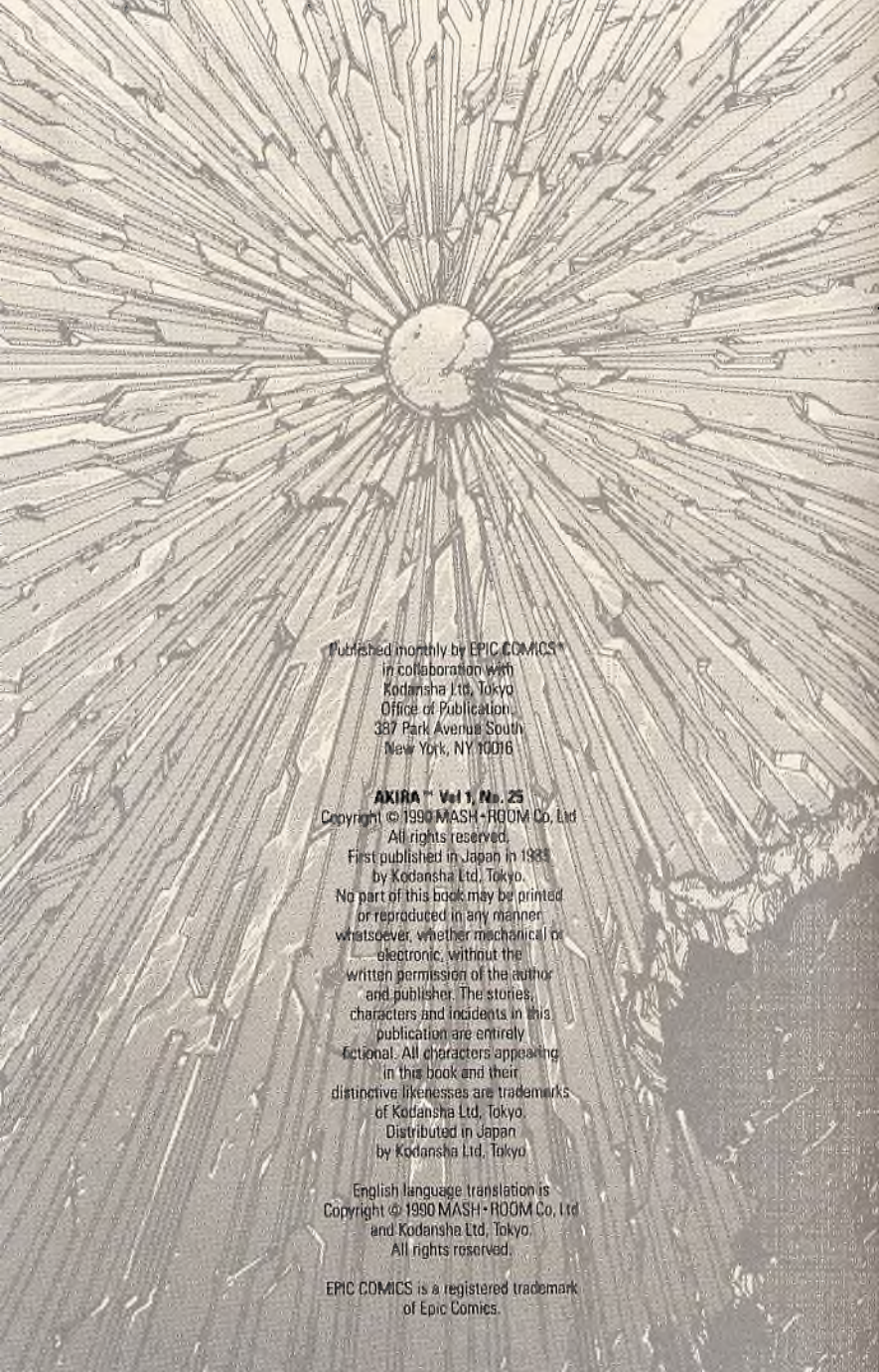
KATSUHIRO OTOMO



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AKIRA

BY KATSUHIRO OTOMO

Chapter 25

VISION UNDERGROUND

WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE

Twenty-thirty. The world hovers on the brink of World War IV. **Kaneda**, leader of a band of teenaged delinquents, leads his friends into a restricted area—the section of **Neo-Tokyo** known as the "old city", where, thirty-eight years before, the first of the bombs fell.

As a result, **Kaneda** and his friend **Tetsuo** become entangled in a power struggle between a mysterious military and scientific organization led by the **Colonel** and an underground resistance group bent on putting a stop to the Colonel's activities. Members of the resistance include **Kay**, **Ryu**, and a formidable woman named **Chiyoko**. Among their superiors is the blind **Lady Miyako**—a powerful religious leader with strong precognitive gifts.

The **Colonel** has a number of psychic children under his control. **Takashi**, **Kiyoko**, and **Masaru** are identified by numbers marked on their hands. **Number 28** is **Akira**, so powerful that since the war he has been suspended in cryogenic sleep.

The Colonel's staff conducts experiments which awaken tremendous telepathic potential in **Tetsuo**, who is redubbed **Number 41**. Able to shrug off the most serious injuries, **Tetsuo** goes on a killing spree, even attacking **Kaneda**. Followed by **Kay** and **Kaneda**, **Tetsuo** seeks out **Akira**, whose powers he fears may rival his own. In hibernation, Akira's power responds to Tetsuo's psychic energy. When **Tetsuo** reaches Akira's resting place, the cryogenic chamber cracks from within and Akira—dazed and docile from his long sleep—emerges.

The **Colonel** summons the powerful SOL military satellite and orders that its laser cannon be fired at **Tetsuo** and **Akira**. The two are separated by the blasts. **Akira** is saved by **Kay** and **Kaneda**, but the laser strikes Tetsuo's left arm. Afterward, **Neo-Tokyo** is placed in a state of military emergency, with "caretaker robots" patrolling the streets and

Akira **The Colonel** **Kai** **Masaru**

keeping order.

Akira and the resistance fighters are cornered by the Colonel's troops, but all seems well when **Takashi** fondly greets **Akira**. Then **Nezu**, a former resistance leader who has betrayed his own side, arrives. He tries to kill **Akira**, but kills **Takashi** instead.

The trauma of Takashi's death galvanizes **Akira**. He fully awakens and unleashes a light blast powerful enough to devastate the entire city. **Masaru** and **Kiyoko** sweep most of the people in the area upward. **Kaneda** is last seen vanishing toward the sky. Afterward, **Lady Miyako** opens her temple and offers shelter and comfort to those in need, gathering large groups of followers in the East.

Neo-Tokyo is completely cut off from the outside world. In the western part of the city the **Great Tokyo Empire** is formed—a monarchy with **Akira** as the figurehead and **Tetsuo** as his prime minister. Together the pair use their powers, healing the sick, wielding control of the faithful, and organizing their subjects into fighting units that destroy caretaker robots and conquer military and medical relief parties sent from the outside world. The **Empire** is eventually infiltrated by teams of spies from the outside.

Masaru and **Kiyoko** are sick with withdrawal from the drug which augments and channels mental powers, and when **Kiyoko**, whose powers are precognitive, tells **Kay** to find **Number 19**, **Lady Miyako** asks that **Kay** bring the other psychics to her when they are well.

Tetsuo's men kill most of the

Kiyoko Kaori Ryu Seer

spies from the outside, but their leader, **Lt. Yamada**, escapes when **Ryu** appears and leads him into the safety of an underground shelter. **Yamada** refuses to tell **Rhu** who has sent him. He does, however, reveal that Russia has conquered part of Japan, and that the American fear of **Akira** makes them reluctant to get involved.

Tetsuo forces an orgy of sex and drugs on several young girls, only one of whom—**Kaori**—survives. Afterwards, **Tetsuo** looks into Akira's mind. He emerges a terrified wreck. When he recovers, he decides that **Lady Miyako** may be able to explain matters to him. Taking a dose of the power-enhancing medication, **Tetsuo** teleports to the temple of the religious leader. **Lady Miyako** recounts to him the experiments decades earlier which created the psychic children and reveals that the third World War was begun by a mental blast from **Akira**. She also warns **Tetsuo** that he alone can control Akira's near-inconceivable powers, but that he must first overcome his dependency on drugs. Disgusted and perplexed, **Tetsuo** returns to his stronghold. There he neglects his duties of state, concentrating instead on trying to kick the habit.

Kay and **Chiyoko** try to move **Masaru** and **Kiyoko** to Lady Miyako's temple, but they are attacked by Tetsuo's followers, who escape with **Kiyoko**. **Chiyoko** rescues the girl, but is badly wounded. The two are brought to safety by the **Colonel**, who has been living in isolation. **Chiyoko**, delirious, tells the **Colonel** to take the child to the temple, where he'll also find **Masaru**.

Ryu and **Lt. Yamada** watch the **Empire** from hiding and are startled by an encounter with **Tetsuo**, whose withdrawal causes his powers to surge erratically. **Ryu** is even more startled when **Tetsuo** blurts out what his telepathy has shown him—that **Yamada** has come to assassinate **Akira**.

Tetsuo's lieutenant leads his army to Lady Miyako's temple, and they slaughter all in their path —monks, penitents and helpless refugees. They are however, thwarted by the power of Lady Miyako's psychically gifted monks and defeated when **Kay** captures their leader. **Lady Miyako** refuses to permit the execution of their enemies. Tetsuo's men depart alive, bitterly

Kaneda Chiyoko Lt. Yamada Kay

swearing revenge. They return an hour later hungry for blood and victory.

Meanwhile, the **Colonel** has been wounded and nearly killed by soldiers of the **Empire**, but escapes alive. Shortly after **Tetsuo** returns to the shrine, maddened by the pain of withdrawal, the **Colonel** arrives and uses a remote control that enables him to fire a blast from the SOL satellite. **Tetsuo** unleashes a wave of devastating psychic power. During the mayhem this creates, **Kaneda** reappears, as if from nowhere.

Tetsuo takes another inner voyage, reliving both happy and painful episodes from his past, and seeing a vision of the double helix spiral that **Akira** constantly creates when he plays. Only **Kaori** is there to see **Tetsuo** return to the seat of the **Great Tokyo Empire** and bow down to his young lord. When their lieutenant returns, confesses his unauthorized attack on the shrine, and begs **Tetsuo** to help them overcome **Miyako**, **Tetsuo** refuses.

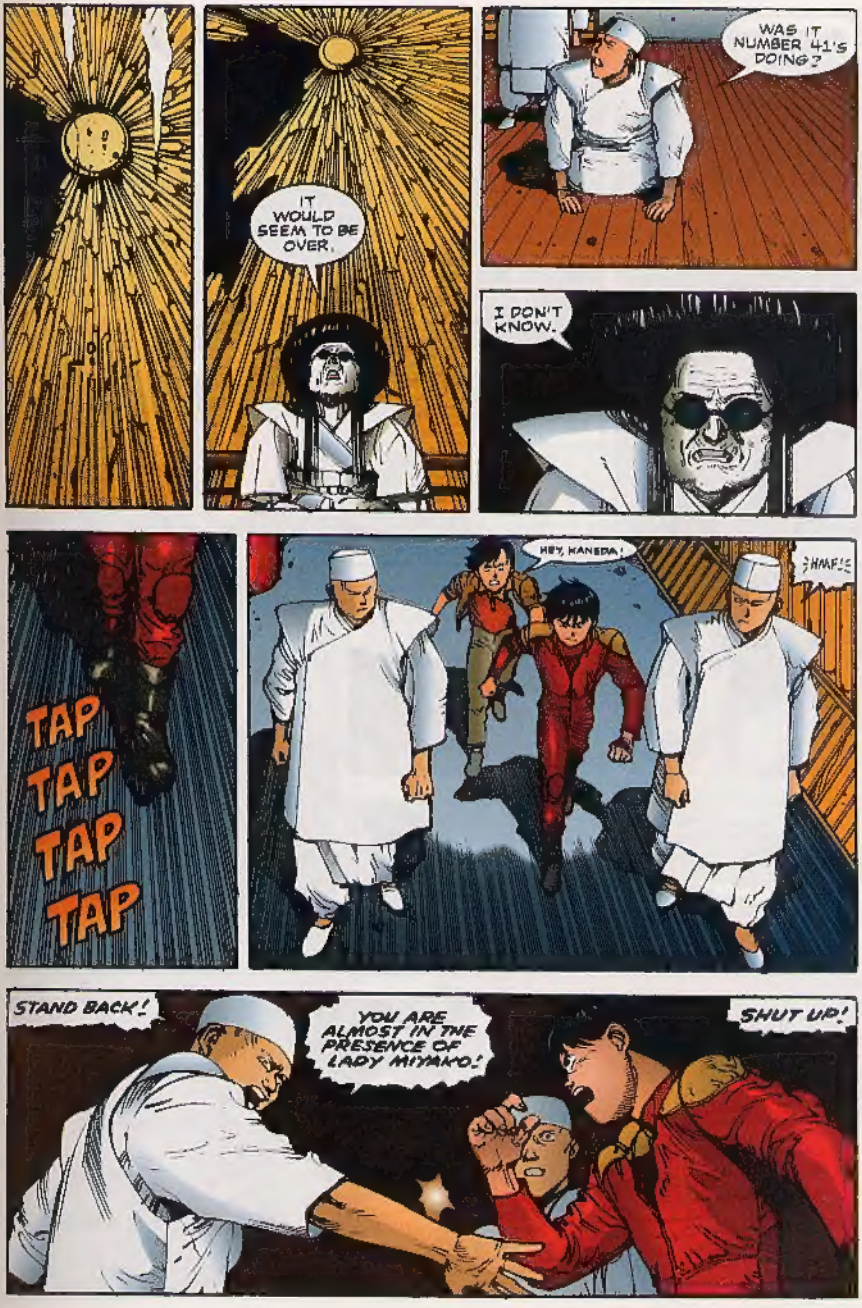
Aboard an American naval vessel, an international conclave of scientists assembles. They pool their knowledge of the **Akira** project, which they code-name **Juvenile A**. Their data indicates that the effect of Akira's power is like that of the Big Bang—the force that created the universe—and that the most recent blast (Tetsuo's), lacked the scope and dimension of the earlier ones. They also theorize a link between the psychic blasts and the firing of SOL, over which the military is trying to regain control.

Kai leads **Kaneda** to a black market shop in the thieves' quarter of the city beyond Miyako's shrine. Leading the thieves is **Joker**, former leader of the **Clown** motorcycle gang, who were Kaneda's bitterest enemies. However, **Kaneda**, **Joker** and **Kai** agree to work together and avenge Tetsuo's crimes.

The **Colonel**, too, is after **Tetsuo**, blaming himself for the creation of what could turn out to be another **Akira**. **Kay** badgers him, hoping to make him reveal Chiyoko's whereabouts. The **Colonel** gives **Kay** a chance to join him, and the pair leave the shrine together. **Lady Miyako** is irate when she learns of this, and sends for **Kaneda,** imploring him to return with her "beloved" daughter."

Tetsuo **Tetsuo's Aide** **Lady Miyako** **Joker**

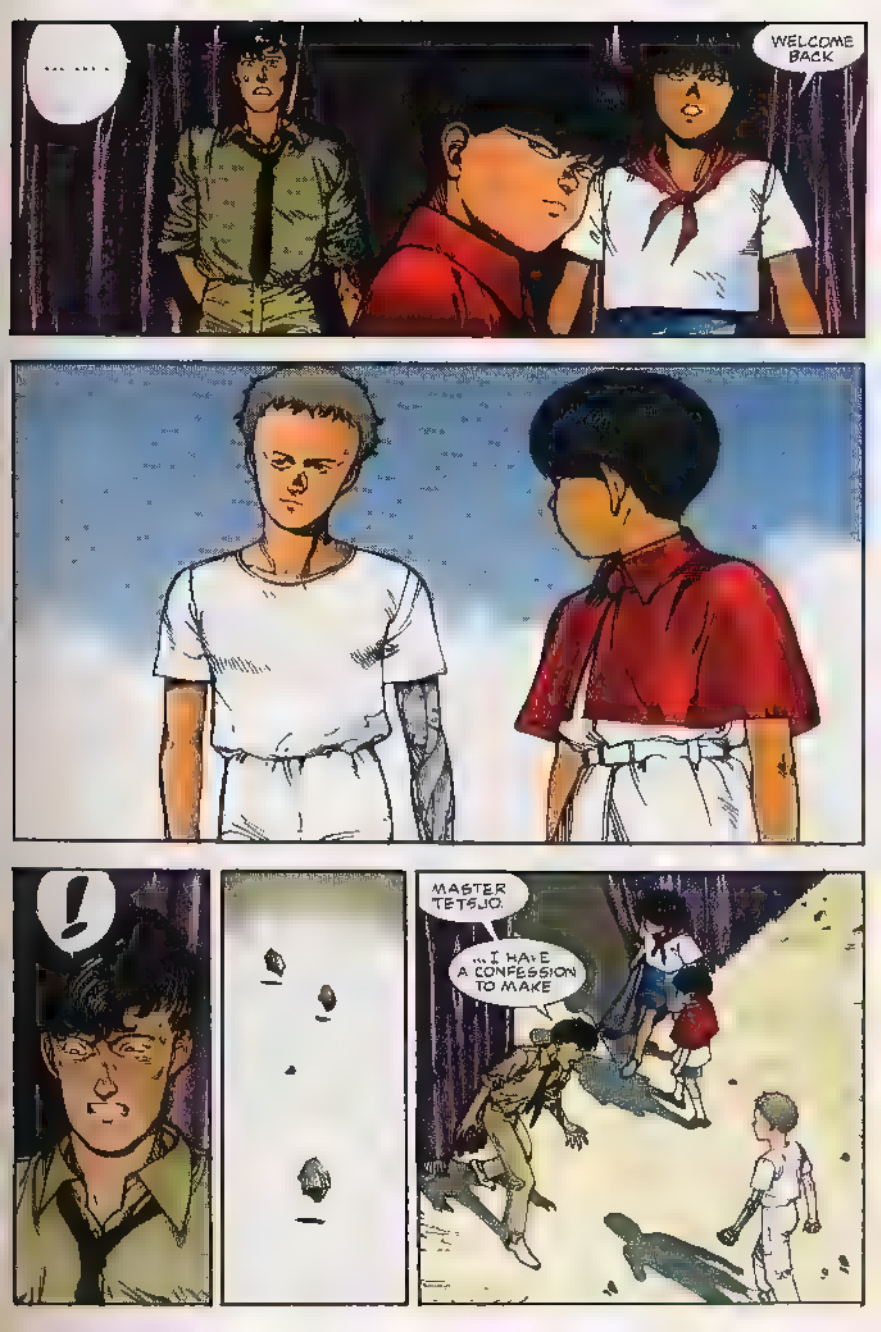
RRUMBLE
IT'S AN EARTHQUAKE!
RRUM
RRUMBLE
THOOM

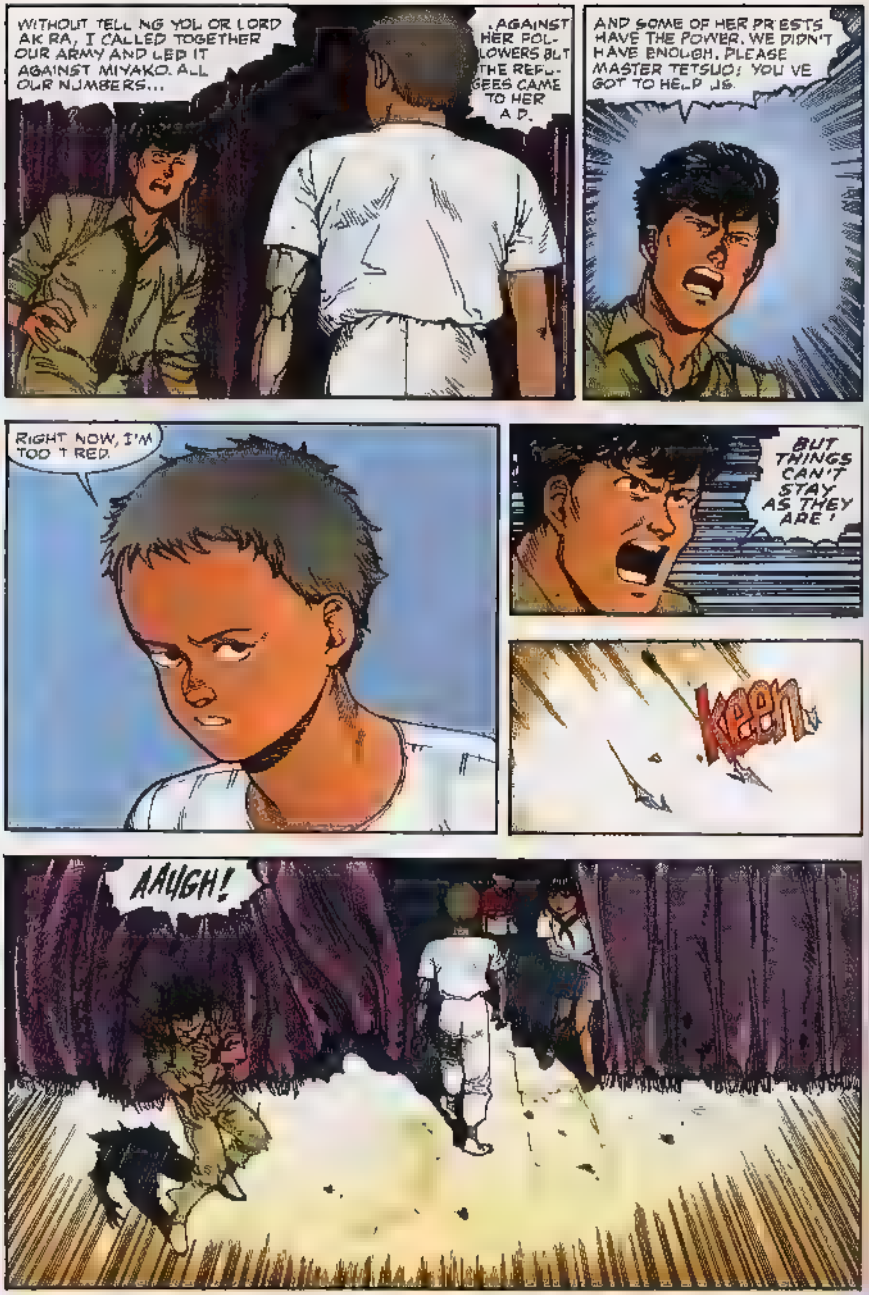

IT WOULD SEEM TO BE OVER.
WAS IT NUMBER 41'S DOING?
I DON'T KNOW.
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
HEY, KANEDA!
SHMF!?
STAND BACK!
YOU ARE ALMOST IN THE PRESENCE OF LADY MIYAKO!
SHUT UP!

FIRST YOU SENT FOR ME, AND NOW YOU'RE TELLING ME TO STAY BACK? I DON'T HAVE TO TAKE THAT SHIT!
THANK YOU FOR BRINGING H M'
HUH?
LADY MIYAKO!
YOU MAY LEAVE US NOW.
THE WICKED OLD WITCH CAME OUT OF HIDING!
MY REQUEST IS A SIMPLE ONE. I WANT YOU TO LOOK FOR KAY
KAY'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS. IF I WANT HER, THEN I'LL GO AND FIND HER!
OF COURSE YOU WILL... BUT..
..SHE'S AS PRECIOUS TO ME AS THOUGH SHE WERE MY OWN DAUGHTER
I BEG OF YOU TO BRING HER BACK.
PRECIOUS DAUGHTER..?

HMM?
RUMBLE
ANOTHER ONE
IT'S BIGGER THAN LAST TIME
THIS EARTHQUAKE--
--IS--
THOOM
KRAASH
RUMBLE
RRUMBLE

HUH?
LORD AK RA!
AND MASTER TETSUO!


... .
WELCOME BACK
!
MASTER TETSUO.
... I HAVE A CONFESSION TO MAKE

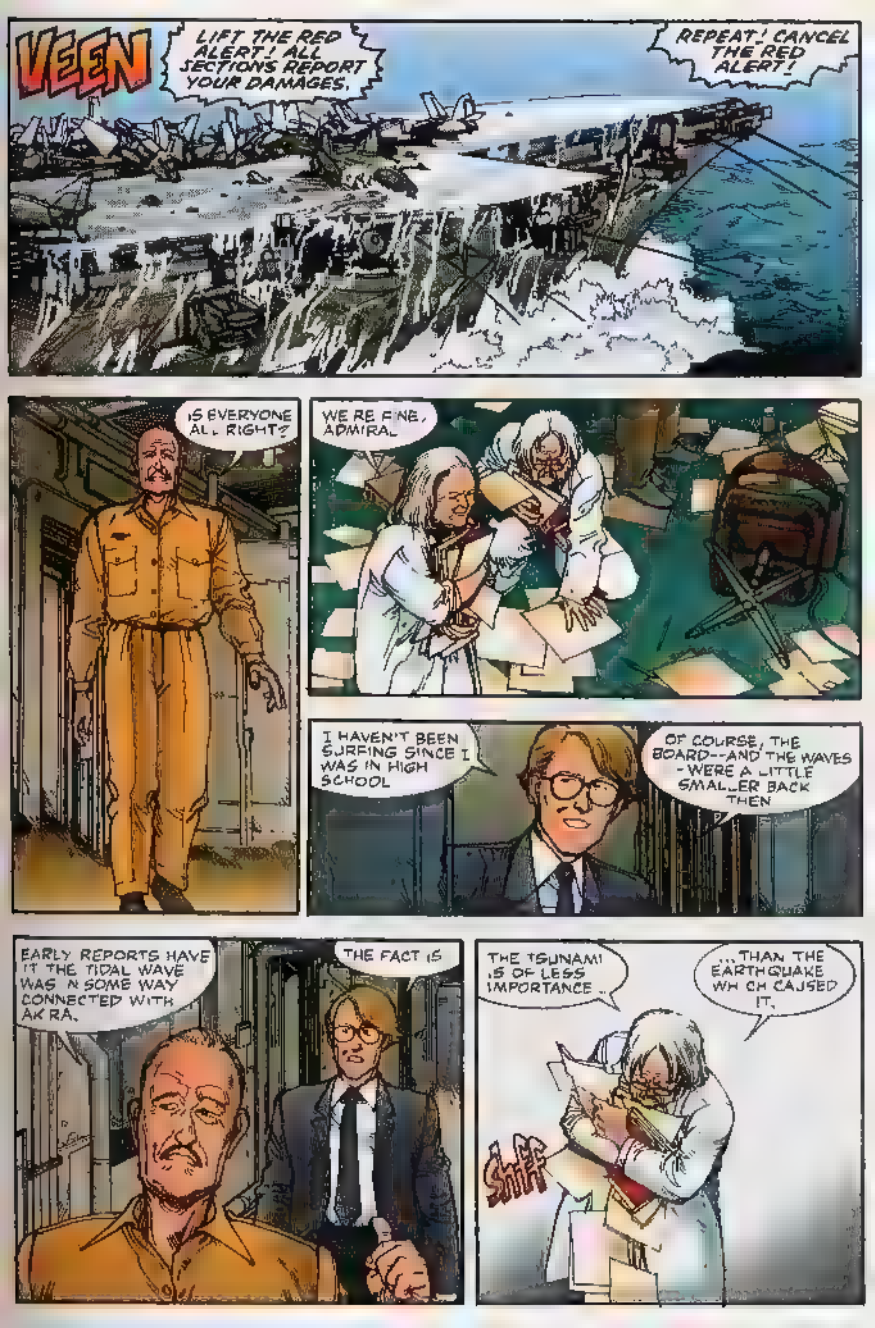

WITHOUT TELLING YOU OR LORD AKURA, I CALLED TOGETHER OUR ARMY AND LED IT AGAINST MIYAKO. ALL OUR NUMBERS...
...AGAINST HER FOLLOWERS BUT THE REFUGEES CAME TO HER AID.
AND SOME OF HER PRIESTS HAVE THE POWER. WE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH. PLEASE MASTER TETSUO! YOU'VE GOT TO HELP US.
RIGHT NOW, I'M TOO UPSET.
BUT THINGS CAN'T STAY AS THEY ARE!
Keen
AAUGH!

KAORI.
YES.

STAY WITH ME ..
HARD STARBOARD!
VEEN VEEN VEEN
SECURE ALL PLANES AGAINST THE SHOCKWAVE!

THERE'S A TSUNAMI APPROACHING THE SHIP!
ALL PLANES MUST BE SECURED BEFORE THE SHOCKWAVE HITS!
VEE VEE VEE
VEE VEE
dr.rrrrr
RRRMM

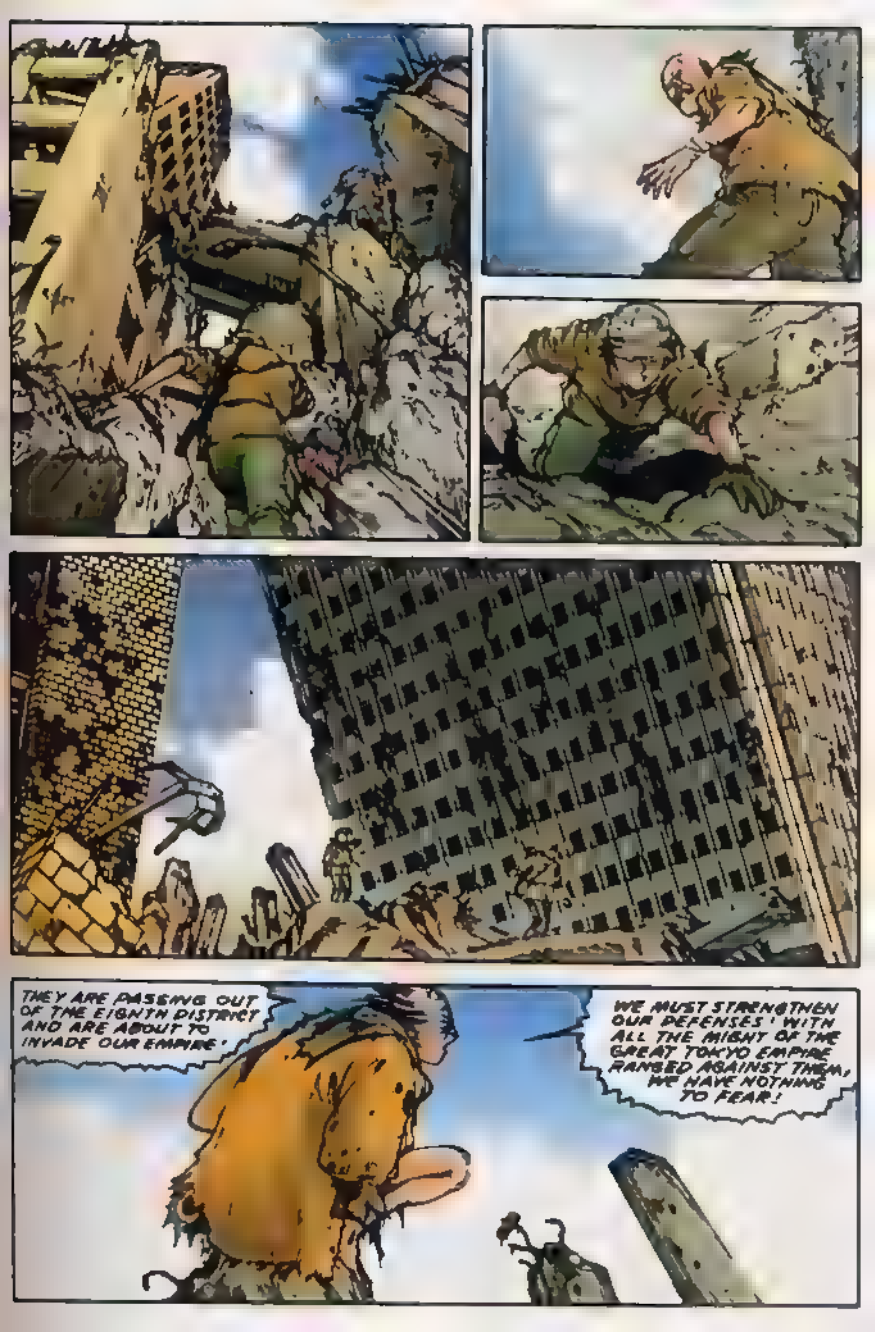
RRRM
AAUGH!
KLONG
SHHM
FLUT
KLONK
KLANG


VEEN
LIFT THE RED ALERT! ALL SECTIONS REPORT YOUR DAMAGES.
REPEAT! CANCEL THE RED ALERT!
IS EVERYONE ALL RIGHT?
WE'RE FINE, ADMIRAL.
I HAVEN'T BEEN SURFING SINCE I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL
OF COURSE, THE BOARD--AND THE WAVES -WERE A LITTLE SMALLER BACK THEN
EARLY REPORTS HAVE IT THE TIDAL WAVE WAS N SOME WAY CONNECTED WITH AKRA.
THE FACT IS
THE TSUNAMI ,S OF LESS IMPORTANCE ..
...THAN THE EARTHQUAKE WH CH CAJSED IT.
SHIFF

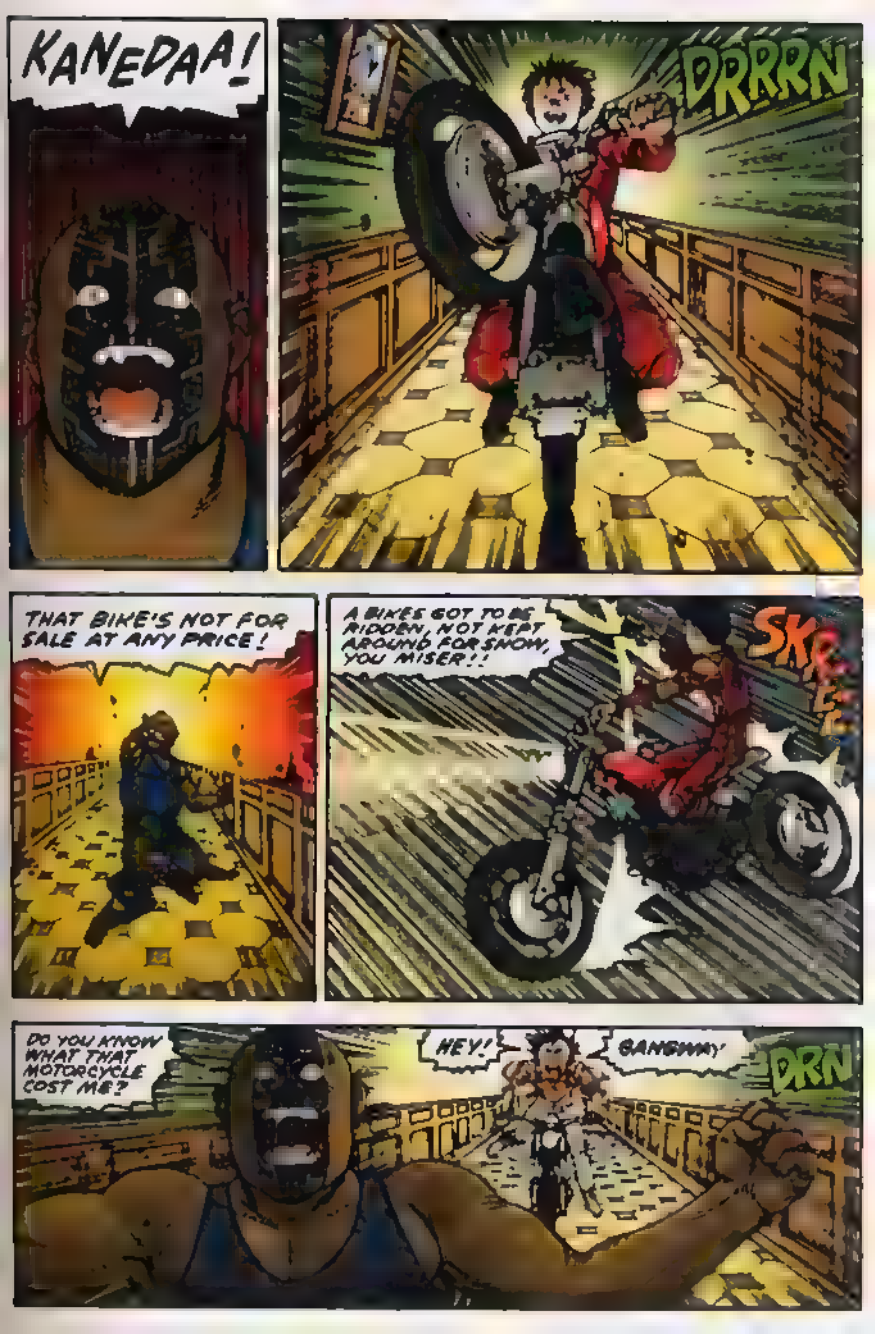
THE SEISMIC FOCUS WAS 300 KILOMETERS BELOW NEO-TOKYO'S SURFACE. SHOCKWAVES MEASURE 8.5 ON THE RICHTER SCALE, INDICATING THAT THIS WAS A GIANT QUAKE.
HOWEVER, THE USUAL PRECURSORS TO A QUAKE OF THIS MAGNITUDE -- THE FORESHOCKS, DISRUPTION OF THE EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD, INDEED, INCREASED SEISMOGRAPHIC READINGS AT ANY OF OUR TRACKING STATIONS --
WERE ALL COMPLETELY ABSENT. THIS WAS NOT THE RESULT OF NATURAL STRESSES WITHIN A TECTONIC PLATE. A HUMAN AGENT MAY HAVE BEEN THE CAUSE.. OR AN EXPERIMENT GONE AWRY.
JAPAN IS A NATURAL EARTHQUAKE CENTER. YOU'LL NEED STRONG EVIDENCE TO BE ABLE TO PROVE A CAUSAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THIS PHENOMENON AND AKIRA
WHAT'S YOUR OPINION KARMA TANGI?
THEY ARE SLEEPING. BOTH OF THEM.
THEY PLAYED HARD AND NOW THEY ARE DEEPLY ASLEEP

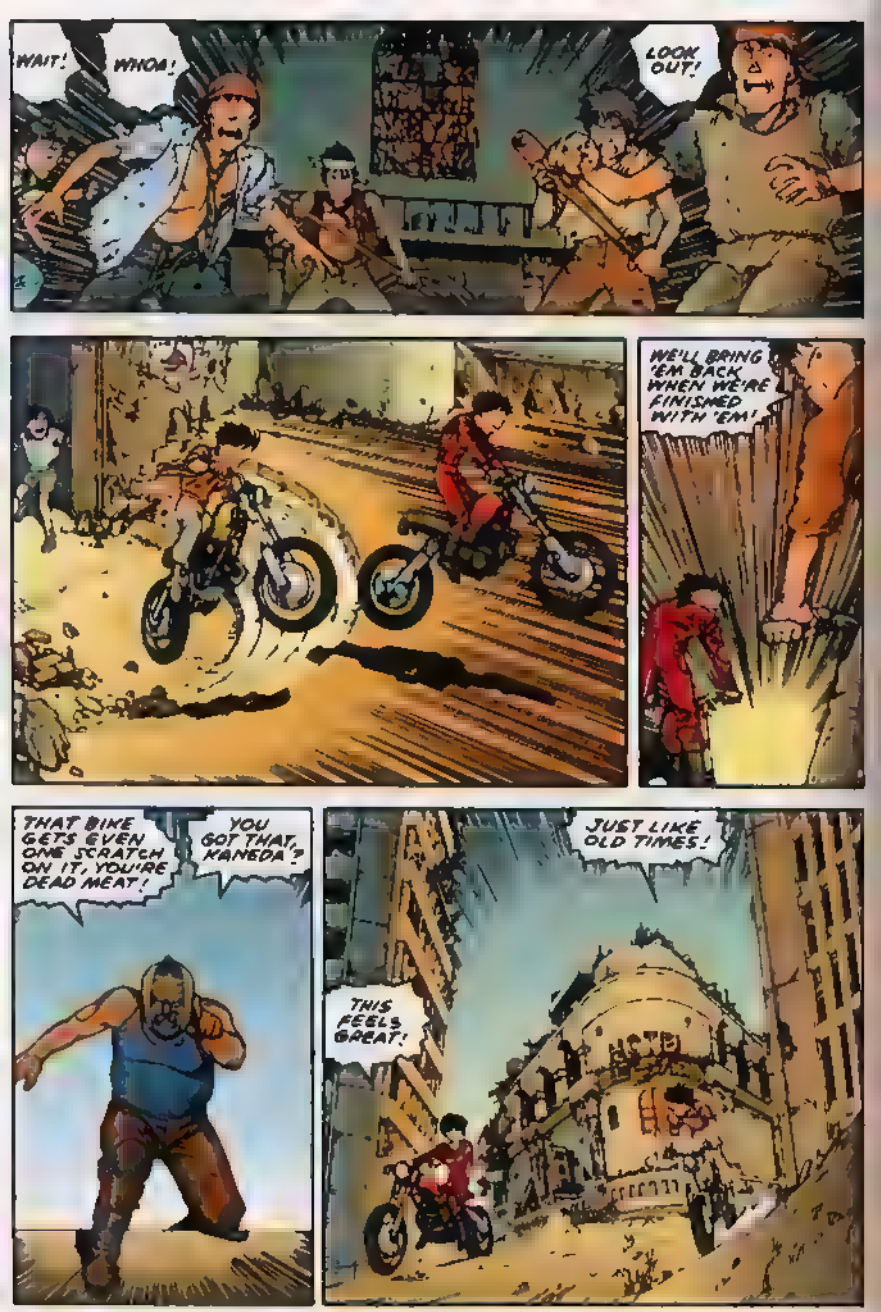
YOU STILL HAVEN'T SAID IF YOU'LL GRANT ME THIS FAVOR
I KNOW YOU RE CONCERNED FOR HER TOO
SURE I AM.
BUT I NEED A FAVOR, TOO!
NAME IT
I'M IN DEBT, AND THAT MEANS TROUBLE!
HEH-HEH-HEH-HEH!
LIKE YOU SAID, SHE'S LADY BOUNTIFUL
I WAS SWEATING BUCKETS.
YOU PROMISED TO LOOK FOR KAY
BUT WHERE?

I THINK KAY TOLD ME LAST NIGHT
I DON'T REMEMBER THAT
YOU AN' ME WERE WITH JOKER LAST NIGHT.
I KNOW
IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!
I DON'T KNOW HOW I COULD HAVE ..
. BUT I'M SURE I HEARD HER.
SO, WHERE S SHE?
SHE S.. SHE S... UMMM.
YEAH RIGHT "UM." BU.. SH T.
I KNOW T!
HUH?
THAT WAY IN WHAT USED TO BE THE E GHTH D STR CT


THEY ARE PASSING OUT OF THE EIGHTH DISTRICT AND ARE ABOUT TO INVADE OUR EMPIRE!
WE MUST STRENGTHEN OUR DEFENSES! WITH ALL THE MIGHT OF THE GREAT TOKYO EMPIRE RANGED AGAINST THEM, WE HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR!

KRF
COLONEL..
T S NOTH NG.
WE RE
A MOST
THERE


KANEDAA!
DRRRN
THAT BIKE'S NOT FOR SALE AT ANY PRICE!
A BIKE'S GOT TO BE RIDDEN, NOT KEPT AROUND FOR SHOW, YOU MISER!!
SKR
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MOTORCYCLE COST ME?
HEY!
GANGNAM
DRN


WAIT!
WHOA!
LOOK OUT!
WE'LL BRING 'EM BACK WHEN WE'RE FINISHED WITH 'EM!
THAT BIKE GETS EVEN ONE SCRATCH ON IT, YOU'RE DEAD MEAT!
YOU GOT THAT, KANEDA?
JUST LIKE OLD TIMES!
THIS FEELS GREAT!

KSK
LUCKY WE GOT THESE WHEELS, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE SLOW GOING AHEAD
I KNOW A SHORTCUT
THIS WAY.
B-2
西大久保駅
I HOPE IT DOESN'T CAVE IN
WE WON'T KNOW TILL WE TRY
WE'RE TAKING THE SUBWAY?
YUP

HFF
HFF
HFF
HFF
HFF
DO YOU WANT TO REST HERE?
NO I M ALL RGHT LET'S GO...
OHH!

HMMMM...
WHERE DO WE TRANSFER TO GET TO THE EIGHTH DISTRICT?
I THINK WE TAKE THE OIZUMI LINE
ANYWAY, LET'S GO
KUK
DRRRRN
POW
EXCELLENT!

WE WANT TO FOLLOW TRACK FIVE!
SKREE
LET'S GO!

YOU'VE INVADED OUR LAND!
THROW DOWN YOUR WEAPONS AND SURRENDER!
THREE OF THEM ARE ARMED ONLY ONE HAS A SECURE FOOTING.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE OTHER TWO
RUSH RIGHT FOR THE CENTER OF THE GIANTS CHEST .. IT'S THE ONLY POSSIBLE ANGLE.
TAK
HUNH?!
Tap Tap
HEY!

BLAM BLAM
WUAGH!
BEAM
EEP!
TOKKA BLAM
POW

THAM
WOOUH
AHH..!
!
PLOK
DAMN_
WAOOUH_
THIS WAY QUICKLY

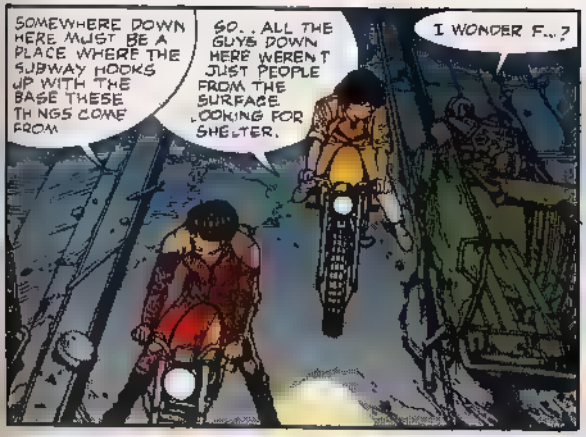
HURRY!
JUMP!
.OOH. . MMM
WUU^OOH!
HURRY, COLONEL!
EHH?
WUUOOOOH!

YAAH!
COLONEL!
THUD
HUFF
HUFF
ARE YOU HURT? WHAT ABOUT YOUR WOUND?

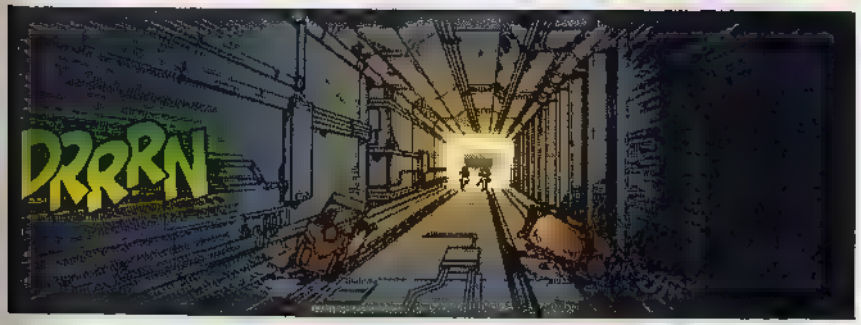
¡GASP!
HUNH?
OVER THERE

南音羽
DRRRN
DRRRN
WE RE ALMOST THERE
RRN RRN
HMM
HUH?

REST IN PEACE.
HEY! C'MERE AND TAKE A LOOK
WHAT, DID YOU FIND SOMEONE YOU KNOW?
WHOA!
IT'S THE ARMY'S. ONE OF THOSE FLYING PLATFORMS
WHAT'S IT DOING HERE? WERE THEY FLYING UNDERGROUND?
CHECK THAT OUT.


SOMEWHERE DOWN HERE MUST BE A PLACE WHERE THE SUBWAY HOOKS UP WITH THE BASE THESE TH NGS COME FROM
SO. . ALL THE GUYS DOWN HERE WEREN T JUST PEOPLE FROM THE SURFACE. LOOKING FOR SHELTER.
I WONDER F...?

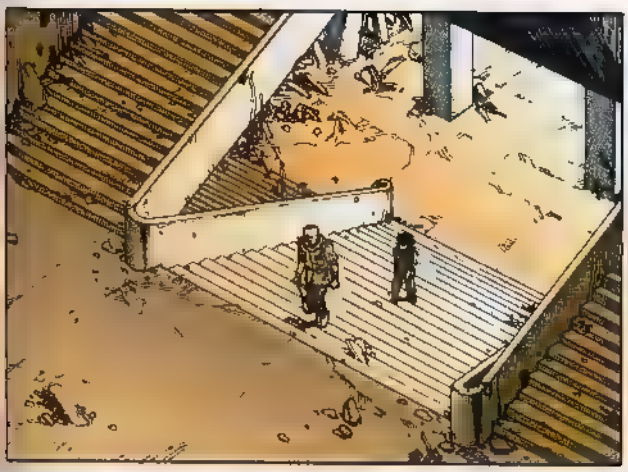
ANYWAY WE CAN BR NG IT BACK TO JOKER MAKE A N CE SOUVEN R


DRRRN

THIS S...
YOU'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE, HAVEN'T YOU?
YEAH

BHOOM
82
OH!
KLAKLANK
IT'S ME!
KLAKLANK
BHOOM

YOU'VE GOT T VERY WELL-TRA NED
LET'S HURRY
IT'S EQU.PPED W TH A VOICE-PR NT RESPONSE MECHANISM
SKUF
THEY WENT IN HERE
REINFORCEMENTS SHOULD BE HERE SOON



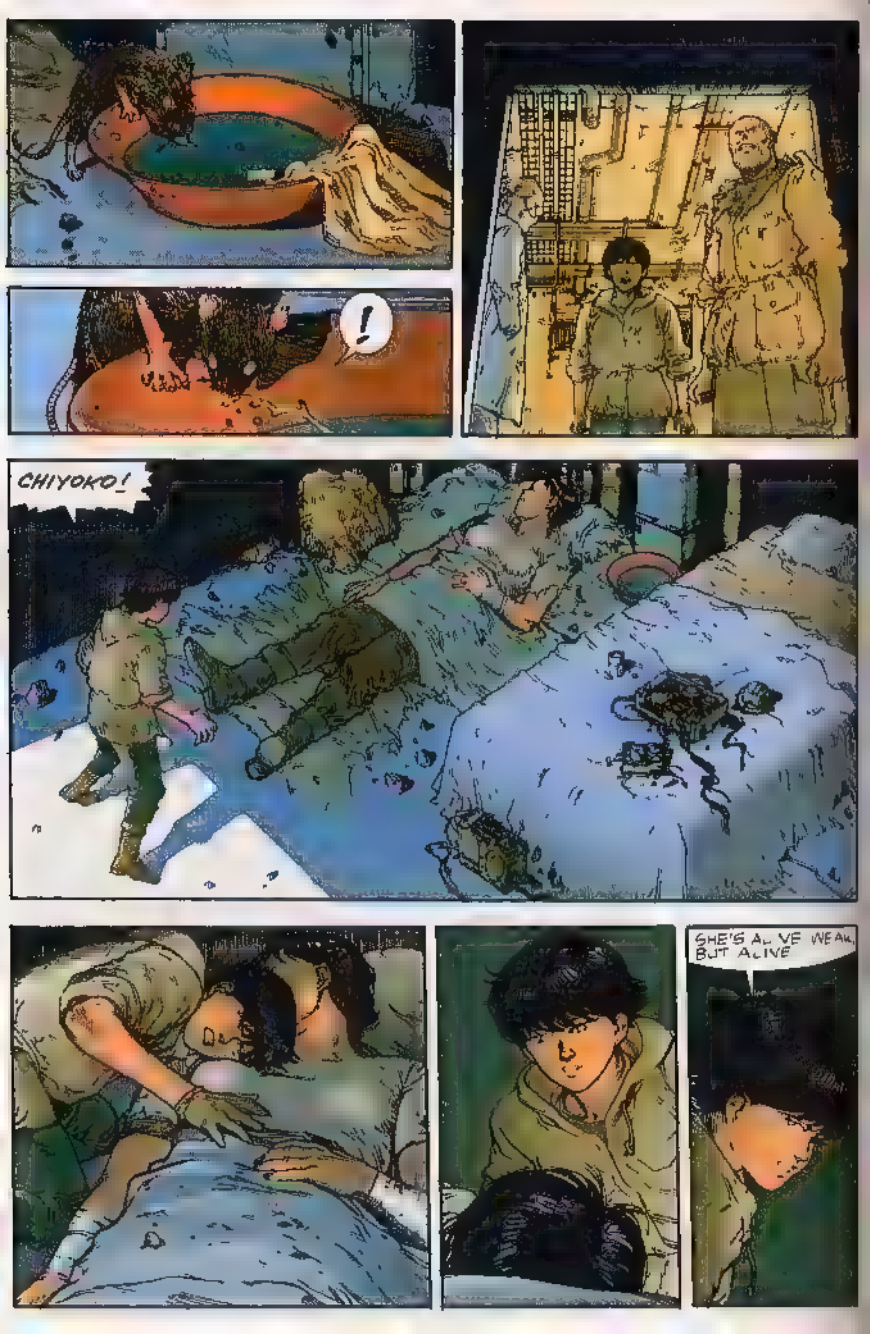
AHH.
HMF!?

THIS IS A PROBLEM.

YOU KNOW THIS PLACE IS OFF LIMITS EXCEPT TO AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL

IS THE WOMAN I LEFT HERE ALL RIGHT?

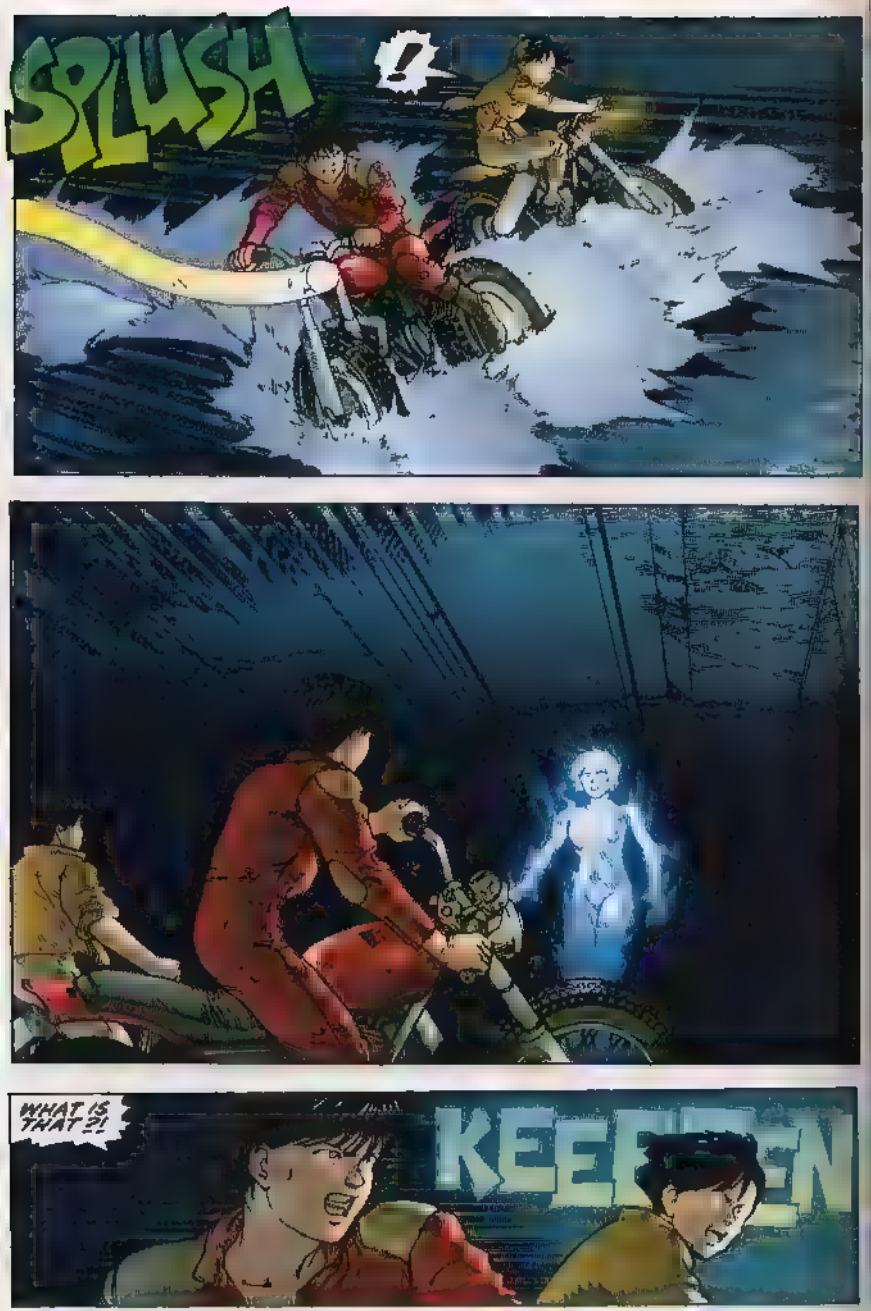
I REALLY COULDN'T SAY
SHE HASN'T MOVED SINCE YESTERDAY.


!
CHIYOKO!
SHE'S ALIVE WEAK, BUT ALIVE

THEY WOULDN'T HAVE THAT THING ON GUARD IF THERE WASN'T SOMETHING WORTH DEFENDING INSIDE
SOMEONE DISTRACT IT! THE REST OF YOU GET INTO THE BUILDING.
KLAT
WOOUH!
NOW!

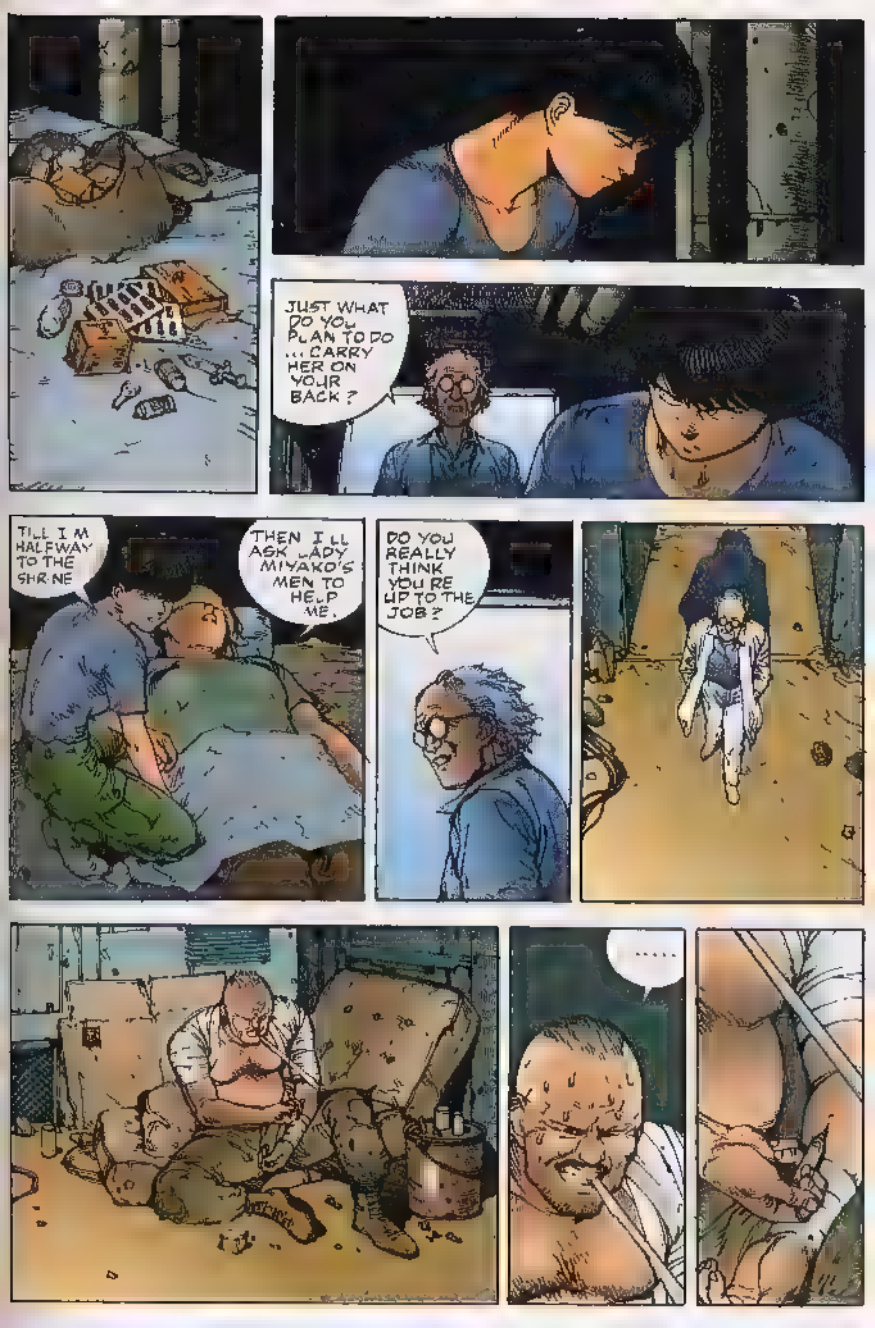
SHPON
AAUGH!!
BLAAT
82
TAKTAKTAK
THOK
BHOON
ZAP
ALL RIGHT! WE JAMMED IT OPEN!
TAKE A LEAK INSIDE AND SHORT-CIRCUIT IT!
YEAH! SEE HOW IT LIKES THAT!

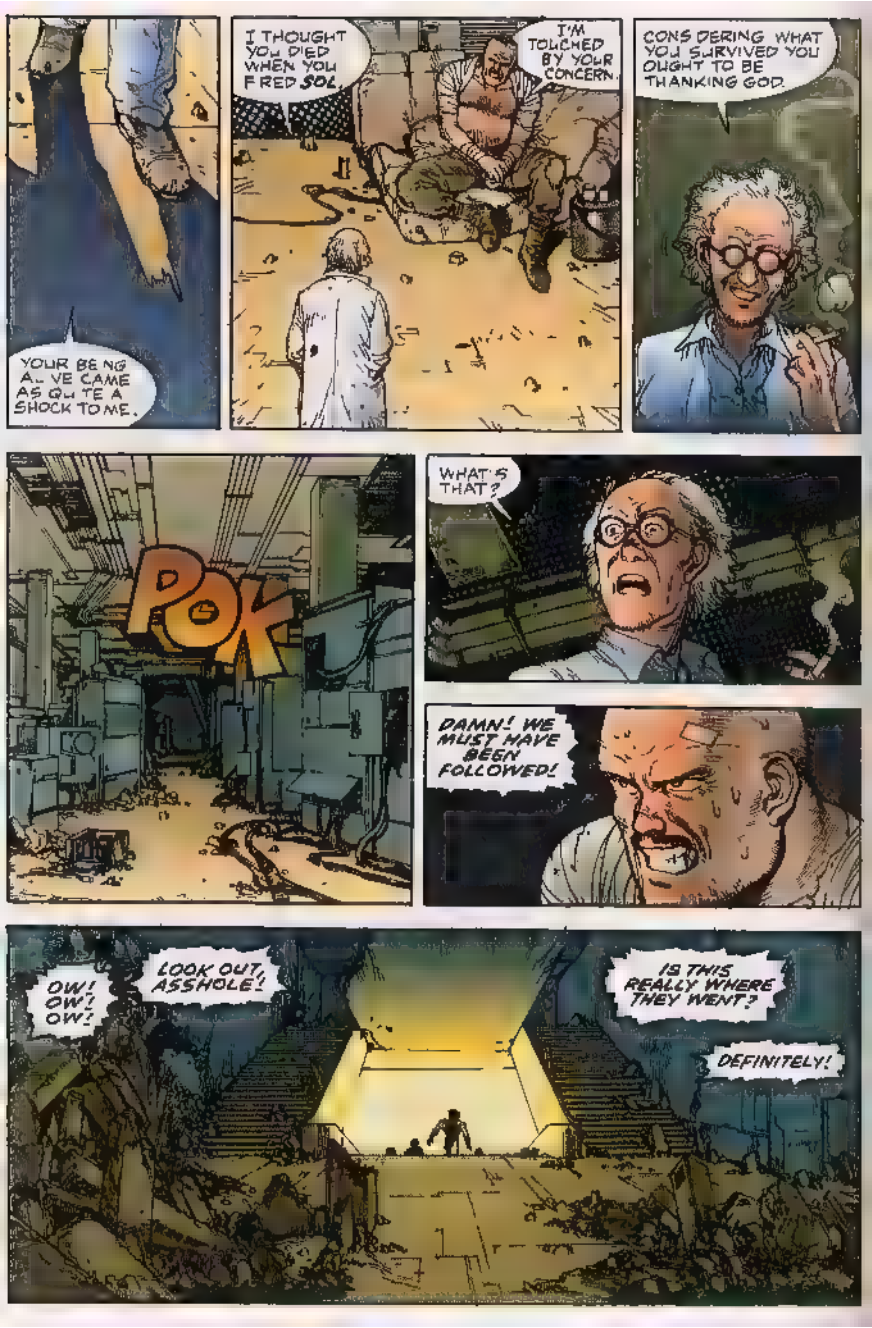
DRRRR
ARE YOU GONNA JUST KEEP GOING TILL WE DROWN?
THE WATER DOESN'T GET ANY DEEPER THAN THIS!
HUNH?
WHAT IS THAT?
KEEP
KAY?!?


SPLUSH
!
WHAT IS THAT ?!

;GASP!;
KAY.
W-WAIT--!
WAA!
KEEEN
AAGH--!

YOU SAW IT, TOO, DIDN'T YOU? IT WAS KAY, RIGHT?
SHE WALKED RIGHT THROUGH YOU.
.....
HOW FAR ARE WE FROM THE EXIT?
CLOSE
THEN LET'S GO.
DRRN
I HOPE NOTHING BAD IS HAPPENED TO HER.
WE'LL SEE SOON ENOUGH.


JUST WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO ... CARRY HER ON YOUR BACK ?
TILL I M HALFWAY TO THE SHR NE
THEN I LL ASK LADY MIYAKO'S MEN TO HELP ME .
DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU RE UP TO THE JOB ?
.....


YOUR BEING ALIVE CAME AS QUITE A SHOCK TO ME.
I THOUGHT YOU DIED WHEN YOU FRED SOL.
I'M TOUCHED BY YOUR CONCERN.
CONSIDERING WHAT YOU SURVIVED YOU OUGHT TO BE THANKING GOD.
POK
WHAT'S THAT?
DAMN! WE MUST HAVE BEEN FOLLOWED!
OW! OW! OW!
LOOK OUT, ASSHOLE!
IS THIS REALLY WHERE THEY WENT?
DEFINITELY!

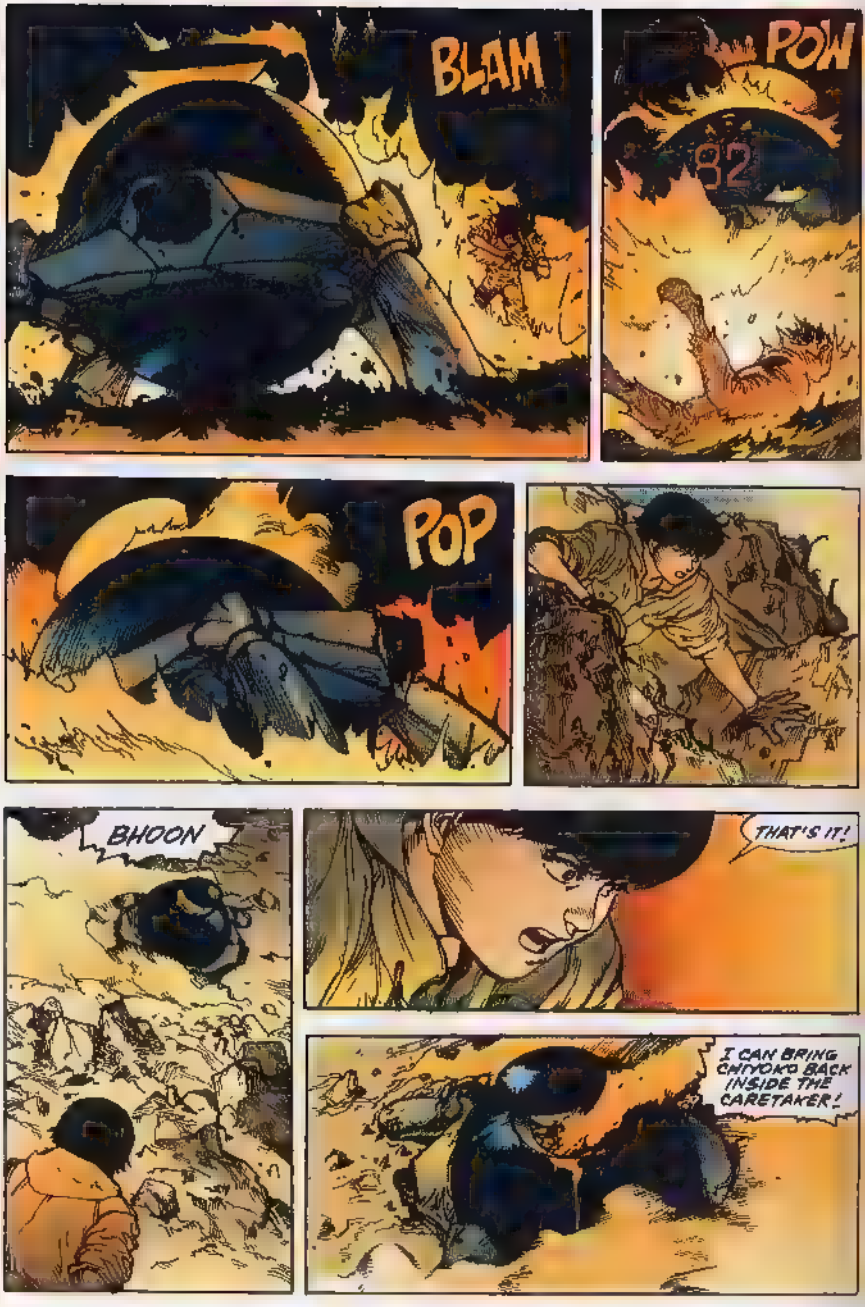
CIRCLE AROUND THE OTHER SIDE!
AND BE CAREFUL!
THEY'RE HERE, AREN'T THEY?!
TOK TOK TOK
WE CAN'T MAKE A STAND IN HERE. YOU'VE GOT TO LURE THEM BACK OUTSIDE!
RIGHT!
...?. ?..
WH-WHAT'S OUT THERE?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YEAH.
HEY. WAIT FOR ME.
SIGH!
NOW LOOK WHO'S IN CHARGE!

BEEP
BIP
THIS COMPUTER'S ON!
LOOK! THERE GOES SOMEONE!
THAT WAY!
FIRE!
BLAM
BLAM

YAIEE!
KLATTER
AAH--!
HERE SHE COMES!
BUDDA BUDDA
SHFFF
DOWN THERE! FIRE!

BLAM
BLAM
DAMN.
KLIK
KLIK
HLNH ?
SWUP
POW
!
BLAM
THOK

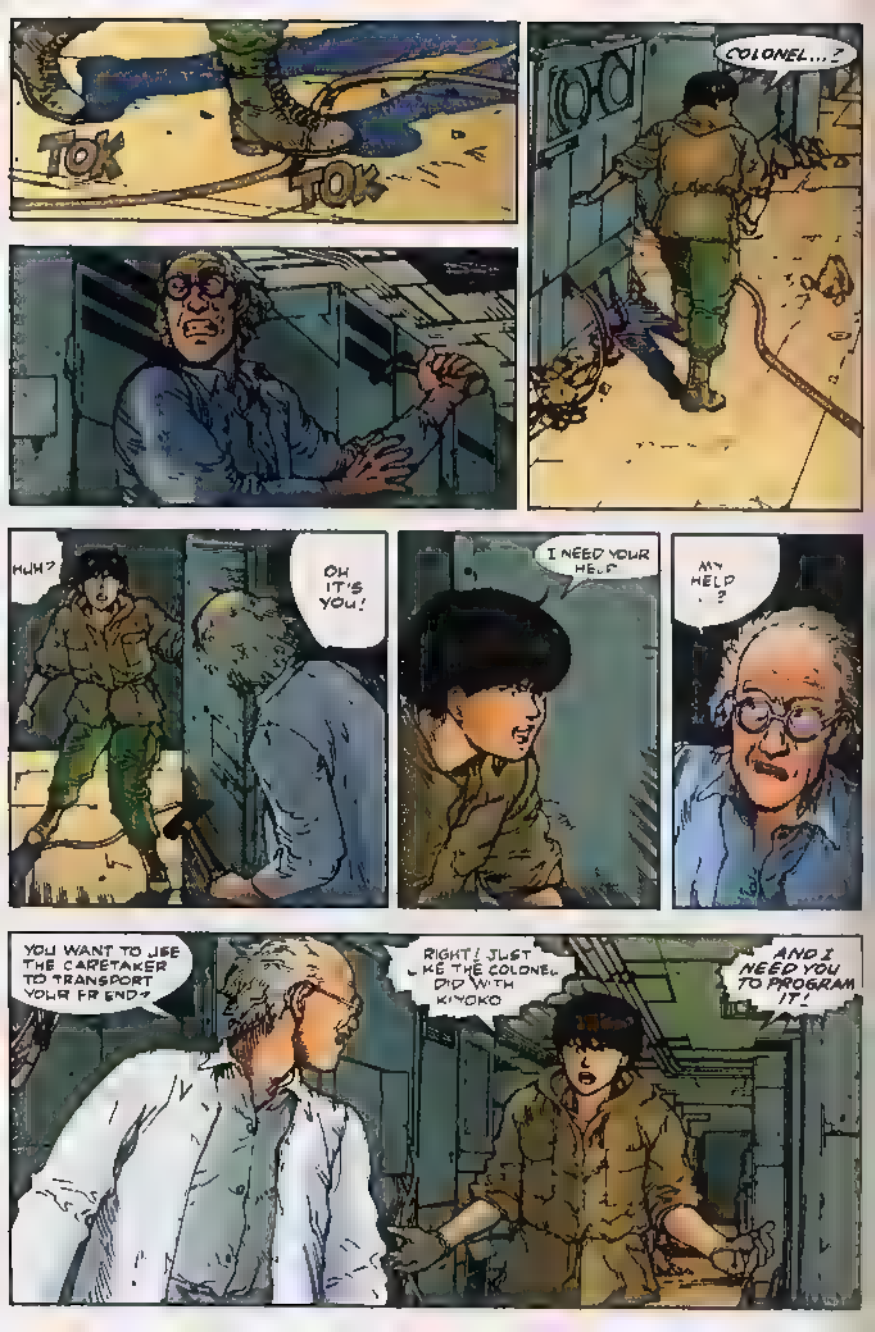
AARGH!
BOP
BLAM
DAMN YOU!!
BOPPLE
BHOON
IT'S STILL TICKING!
HUHH?
BANG
BANG BANG


BLAM
POW
82
POP
BHOON
THAT'S IT!
I CAN BRING CHIYOKO BACK INSIDE THE CARETAKER!

THAT'S THE EXIT, DEAD AHEAD!
SKREEE
OOPS!

UHH... NOW WHAT ?
BEATS ME
BLAM BLAM
!
GUNFIRE...?
THAT S WHAT IT SOUNDS LIKE
MOVE IT !
DRRRN
SKKKKKK
CHAAARGE !
YEEHAH!

OHH--!
BOP
WAAAA--
--AAA--
--AAA--
--HAAH!!


TOK
TOK
COLONEL...?
HUH?
OH IT'S YOU!
I NEED YOUR HELP
MY HELP...?
YOU WANT TO SEE THE CARETAKER TO TRANSPORT YOUR FRIEND?
RIGHT! JUST LIKE THE COLONEL DID WITH KIYOKO
AND I NEED YOU TO PROGRAM IT!

NEXT ISSUE: **ASSASSINATION CORPS!**

AKIRA: the movie AN UPDATE

Upcoming **AKIRA** dates include:

ANN ARBOR, MI
MICHIGAN THEATER
September 28—30

INDIANAPOLIS, IN
IRVING THEATER
September 28—October 4

TEMPE, AZ
VALLEY ART THEATER
October 12—18

EUGENE, OR
BIJOU THEATER
October 12—18

NEW YORK, NY
THE NEW FILM FORUM
begins October 19

PROVIDENCE, RI
AVON CINEMA
November 30—December 6

RHINEBECK, NY
UPSTATE THEATER
October 26—November 1

ATHENS, GA
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
October 26—27

HONOLULU, HI
ACADEMY THEATER
October 27—28

CHARLESTON, WV
CAPITAL PLAZA MUSIC HALL
October 30

LOS ANGELES AREA
MONTCLAIR, CA
GENERAL CINEMA
November 3—4

LANSING, MI
ODEON THEATER
November 2—8

MIAMI, FL
BEAUMONT THEATER
November 9—15

ALBUQUERQUE, NM
SUB THEATER at the UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
November 15—17

PHILADELPHIA, PA
ROXY SCREENING ROOM
December 7—19

DETROIT, MI
DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS
December 14—16

Also, check your local specialty or art theater listings for the **AKIRA** playdates nearest you.

KATSUHIRO OTOMO
writer/illustrator

YASUMITSU SUETAKE
chief assistant to Mr. Otomo

MAKOTO SHIOSAKI
SATOSHI TAKABATAKE
assistants to Mr. Otomo

HIROSHI HIRATA
designer • AKIRA calligraphy

AKIRA SAITO
designer • Kodansha edition

Kodansha Ltd

YOKO UMEZAWA
with LINDA M. YORK
translation

KOICHI YURI
editor • Kodansha edition

YUKA ANDO
editorial coordinator • Tokyo

NORIYUKI OKAZAKI
managing editor • New York

Epic Comics

JO DUFFY
english adaptation

STEVE OLIFF
with the
OLYOPTICS COMPUTER CREW
colorists

MICHAEL HIGGINS
letterer

MARIE JAVINS
managing editor

MARCUS MCLAURIN
editor

CARL POTTS
executive editor

It begins with the sudden and mysterious quake that rocks Tokyo, the very Earth turning betrayer in a display of bullying might. It grows in a sweep of passion, sending Kay on a dangerous search for Chiyoko, with Kaneda in a no less harrowing pursuit of Kay. And it thunders out of control in the madness that drives a giant's blood soaked rampage.

They are all natural forces at play in the city this day, roiling and unpredictable powers battering the survivors from without and within. And like all natural forces, these are destined to run their course . . . and when they have, who can say what will remain?

KATSUHIRO OTOMO'S

AKIRA

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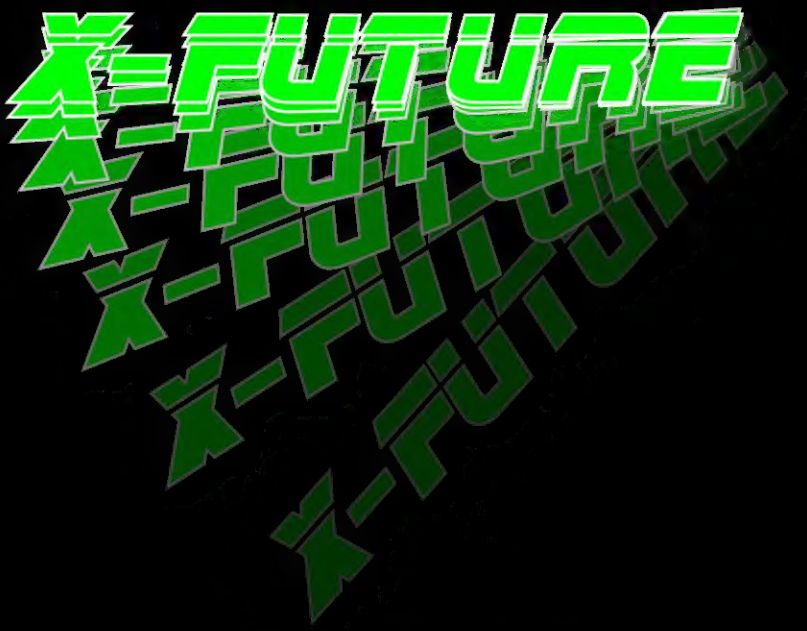

I love um

I buy um

I preserve um